

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 /084 W
-----129133 100429Z /73

R 090448Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6040
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 16566

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, VM, TH
SUBJECT: SRV AMBASSADOR MAKES INTRODUCTORY CALLS

1. SRV AMBASSADOR HOANG BOA SON, WHO ARRIVED IN BANGKOK APRIL 19, HAS BEEN PAYING INTRODUCTORY CALLS ON THAI LEADERS. HIS ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN REPORTED PROMINENTLY IN THE PRESS. SON CALLED LAST WEEK ON PM KRIANGSAK AND ON FORMER FONMIN PHICHAIRATTAKUN. HE ALSO HELD A RECEPTION MAY 30 FOR DEPUTY COMMERCE MINISTER PROK AMMARANAN AND A TRADE DELEGATION PROK LED TO HANOI MAY 31.

2. WHILE HIS MEETING WITH KRIANGSAK APPARENTLY WAS DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO EXPRESSIONS OF GOOD INTENTIONS IN BILATERAL RELATIONS, HIS MEETING WITH PHICHAIR PERMITTED THE FORMER FONMIN TO REMIND SON OF SOME UNFULFILLED PROMISES IN THE COMMUNIQUE ESTABLISHING RELATIONS IN AUGUST, 1976, WHICH PHICHAIR SIGNED. PHICHAIR REMINDED SON OF THE PLIGHT OF THAI FISHERMEN CAPTURED ALLEGEDLY IN VIETNAMESE WATERS
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AND JAILED. HE SOUGHT AND RECEIVED PROMISES THAT SON WOULD REPORT THE MATTER URGENTLY TO HANOI. PHICHAIR ALSO CALLED FOR SETTING UP OF THE JOINT COMMISSION TO STUDY REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES WHO FLED TO THAILAND IN 1946 DURING THE FIRST INDO-CHINA WAR. (THEY NOW NUMBER ABOUT 50,000.) THE AUGUST, 1976, COMMUNIQUE CALLED FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A COMMISSION. THIRDLY, PHICHAIR

CALLED FOR JOINT VENTURES TO HARVEST MARINE RESOURCES IN THE 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE OFF VIET-NAM (WHICH THAILAND DOES NOT RECOGNIZE). FINALLY, PHICHAIR EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE SATISFACTION WITH PROGRESS IN THAI-SRV TRADE AND CIVIL AIR SERVICES WHICH HAS BEEN MADE RECENTLY.

3. COMMENT: NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH VIET-NAM IS STILL A POPULAR MEASURE IN BANGKOK. SON SEEMS TO BE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS ATMOSPHERE TO CULTIVATE THE THAIS. AT THE SAME TIME, PHICHAIR RECOGNIZES THE POLITICAL VALUE OF BEING FIRM BUT CONSTRUCTIVE WITH HANOI.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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